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RADIUM, AND A CRUEL GOVERNMENT

Government chemists so report says, have been engaged for some time in an effort to make "cheap radium." By which it is fair to presume is meant radium cheaper than the present price. Such a thing as really cheap radium will never be possible unless some material is found that contains it in greater proportion than the ores from which it is now extracted.

The present source is the hornblende rocks, of which that variety known as "cornotite" carries it in the greatest quantity.

The task of getting the radium from this can be better understood when it is realized that the percentage of radium in the richest cornotite ores is less than that of gold in sea water.

It is impossible to separate so small a portion of any metal from its base and get a cheap product. Gold obtained from sea water, and all sea water contains it, would be more valuable than diamonds if it had to be obtained in this way.

The amusing part of the story coming from Washington about the government's attempt to make radium, is the complaint of Joseph M. Flannery, president of a Pittsburg radium manufacturing concern, who claims his firm was put out of business because the government took possession of the cornotite ores in Colorado, from which his company had been getting its raw material.

If this had been all the cornotite ore in the country there might have been some justice in the complaint, but such is not the case.

If Mr. Flannery had taken the trouble to investigate a little he could have found an abundance of hornblende ores and cornotite, as rich as any in Colorado.

Up in the Greenhorn, in Baker county there is a vast quantity of hornblende, which is also a very common country rock all over the coast, and some of the finest cornotite to be found anywhere. What proportion of radium it carries is of course unknown, but it is at least worth investigating. Mr. Flannery is given this information without charge and in the hope his big company will not get discouraged in its pursuit of that most wonderful of all metals—radium, or be forced out of business by a hard hearted government.

FORD PARTY DISRUPTED

Whatever chance there might have been for the Ford party to have made toward peace has been dissipated by unfortunate dissensions, and quarrels for which there was no shadow of an excuse. There have been recriminations and accusations, personal abuse and almost the laying of violent hands on each other. This among a band selected and brought together for the purpose of carrying a message of peace and good will to the warring nations of Europe. And all this bickering has accomplished nothing except to bring ridicule on the movement, and arouse strong personal contempt for each other.

It reminds one of the old song about the quarrels between the Irish in years ago over their religion. Two lines of the song stated the cause of the trouble, saying they were—

"Fighting one another for reconciliation,
And hating one another for the love of God."

Diplomats at Washington anticipate a break between this country and Austria. This is about the best evidence that there will be no break. Occasionally a diplomat guesses right, and this of course may be one of the times, but as a general thing they outguess themselves as regularly as the man who bucks the tiger at a crooked game. A faro dealer in a mining camp arrested for running a game of chance was acquitted when he proved that the other fellow "had no chance."

The Chinese in America being familiar with the workings of a republic are indignant at the turning of their native country back to monarchism. They are already raising money to finance a revolution, and intimate that

the majority of the Chinese feel just as they do about it. It is also intimated that Japan, while ostensibly opposing the move is really the cause of it, and will utilize it as an excuse for interfering in China's affairs, this being the opportune time to grab while the nations of Europe have troubles of their own.

Whenever an Oregonian thinks he has a complaint to make against Oregon weather he should watch the dispatches from the East for a day or two and then cheer up and be thankful for the rain, even though it be some times rather persistent. Just now while we are having plenty of rain the middle states are storm swept and sleet wrecked. Railroads are out of commission, telegraph lines down, orchard trees broken and ruined by their loads of hail, and all other kinds of troubles due to the weather are on hand. Oregon rain may be monotonous at times but to paraphrase an old expression: "It beats hail."

Three more days and then Christmas. To those who failed to take the liberal doses of advice handed them by the press generally to "shop early," the further suggestion is handed out to "shop late." That is what will have to be done by the procrastinating ones if they expect to beat Santa to the Christmas tree.

A relief expedition to rescue the peace explorers, stranded on an inhospitable shore, is now in order. The situation presents a splendid opportunity for another enterprising automobile manufacturer to compel the newspapers to advertise him free.



TIRED

I am so tired explaining to agents, each day in the year, that they're wasting time by remaining, and boosting their articles queer. They come, all the sample-case bringers, they come to my shanty in droves, they come with their washers and wringers, they come with their back-action stoves. They bring me a cure-all for chickens, a powder for Dolly, the mare; they bring me complete sets of Dickens, and dye for my whiskers and hair. Along up the sidewalk they teeter, and corner me here at my door, and sell me a patent egg-beater, and wax to be used on the floor. They sell me punk books for my reading, they sell me some saucers and cups, they sell me a wig I'm not needing, they sell me a litter of pups. They wake me at night from my slumber, they call me away from my snooze, and talk till they've sold me a number of traps that no mortal could use. They come in the glow of the morning, when nature seems wondrous and strange, and into my cottage come horning, to sell me a cure for the mange. They come with their smiling and jesting, they come with a crust all their own; ah me, I am tired of requesting the agents to leave me alone!

\$11,704.20 SPENT ON CITY STREETS DURING PAST YEAR

Street Commissioner Budlong Submits Annual Report to City Council

The city of Salem has expended \$11,704.20 on its streets in the past year according to the annual report of Street Commissioner Budlong, which was submitted to the city council last night. The full report follows:
Ditched 100 blocks of pavement with the street paving plant.
Graded and rolled 71 blocks of streets.
Cut down the grade on Cross street east of South High street.
Dug 1,200 feet of ditch and laid 1,200 feet of 20-inch drain tile on Rural avenue.
Laid 200 feet 20-inch drain tile on Trade and South Fourteenth streets.
Dedeked and repaired South Commercial street bridge at a cost of \$739.48.
Redeked North Capital street bridge.
Redeked South Fourteenth street bridge over Mill creek.
Laid 233 yards of pavement on South High street.
Built a new bridge out of old lumber on Mission street between Fourteenth and Fifteenth streets.
Spent 12,600 gallons of road oil on South Commercial street, Saginaw and Mission streets.
Re-surfaced Highland avenue from North High street to Fair Grounds road.
Repaired Portland road from Fair Grounds store to city limits.
Cleaned and repaired River road from north end of Commercial street pavement to north city limits.
Regraveled Cherry avenue four blocks.
Graded and gravelled South Twenty-fifth street from State street to Turner road.
Graded and gravelled one block on Turner road.

Used 564 yards of gravel on streets from Salem Construction company.
Used 1,340 1-2 yards of gravel on bridges and streets from Salem Sand & Gravel company.
Dug 1,300 feet of ditch and laid 1,300 feet of drain tile on North Twenty-second street connecting with state drain tile.
Repaired broken sewer trunk line on Mill street at the river.
Built concrete bridge on South High street over Mill race at a cost of \$843.18.
Built concrete bridge on Fourteenth and Center street at a cost of \$3,531.35.

FRUITLAND NEWS

(Capital Journal Special Service.)
Rolla McIlwain started to school last week, taking up eighth grade work.
A very pleasant party was the verdict of those who were at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mathis last Saturday evening. Those present from this neighborhood were Avis Williams, Ruby Greenfelder, Naomi Runner Susan Bennett, Wm. Bellamy, Kenneth and Carroll Runner.
The Fruitland school district will have an addition if a petition by Nicholas Gerig is granted. At present he is in the Swebge district which is very unhandy. He being about three miles from the school house, while to Fruitland it is about a mile and a half.
The Lattin family expect to visit with relatives at Eugene over Christmas.
A number of boys and girls visited with the Buser family last Sunday, and incidentally a birthday party, it being Claudine White's sixteenth birthday. Those present were Claudine White, Ruth and Florence Mitchell, Mildred Donaldson, Harold Lattin, Ernest Bennett and Elmer Otterbein.
Henry Smith attended church in Salem last Sunday evening.
Scarlet fever has broken out in the adjoining neighborhood of Auburn, necessitating the closing of the school and the Sunday services.
Hilda Lentz and her brothers, Gus and Adolph, spent Sunday afternoon with the Otterbein family.
In spite of a bad rain and wind-storm a large crowd was at the Y. P. A. Sunday evening. Of special interest was the reading by Mrs. T. C. White and talks by Mr. Ransom and Mr. Withim.

VON ESCHEN SCENTS A "NIGGER" IN THE CITY'S WOODPILE

Says He "Got What He Wanted" When His Resolution Was Voted Down

The city council last night voted to install a system of red lights for police alarms and Councilman Von Eschen declared there was "a nigger in the woodpile," otherwise the session was largely devoted to routine business. The question of the hidden Ethiopian came up when Mr. Von Eschen introduced a resolution relative to the municipal bonds. He asked that reports be put on the books of the city to give the exact amount of bonds voted by the city, the amount paid off, the amounts that the property owners had paid in and a lot of other information relative to bonds for the last seven years.
Mayor White replied that the condition of the bonds was stated in every annual report and that the report might be seen at the office of the city recorder at any time. He said further that to employ experts to check over the bonds would cost at least \$1,500 and that since the matter had been covered every year that it appeared to be needless expense, in his opinion. The mayor said he would rather the matter come to a vote in order that the councilmen might pass upon it and that if they desired a checking over the accounts that this would be done. The resolution was put to a vote and lost.
"I got just what I expected," said Councilman Von Eschen. "I wanted it spread upon the minutes, however, just to show that I asked that the status of the bond question be reported and the councilmen did not want it."

The police alarm system will consist of two 60 candle power electric lights in red globes, one to be placed at the intersection of Court and Commercial streets and the other on State and Liberty. Whenever a call is sent into the station for an officer the desk sergeant will switch on one of the lights from his desk and the officers will call in at the station to answer the alarm. It is estimated that the cost of installation will be about \$130.
It was voted to make a new garbage dump near the penitentiary as the pen officials desire to have the old channel of the creek filled up. The new channel which was dug some time ago vacated the old one for some distance and the state board of control takes this means to again level the ground. Mayor White explained that the matter of keeping up the road to the city dumping ground was expensive during the winter months and as there was a good road to the pen that the city would profit by the change while the pen grounds would be improved.

The recorder was authorized to advertise for bids on the printing of the new city ordinances. Applications for plumbing and sanitary inspector were received from E. W. Stubbs and William Leroy Bryant and placed on file to be referred to the incoming council. The sum of \$1,975.08 was ordered paid to William Esch as sheriff as the amount of the tax against property in the Oaks addition in which the city has an interest through improvement liens.
The bids for the 10 year sewer bonds amounting to \$6,709.67 were opened. Morse Bros. bid par and interest and \$85 premium; Karlsten & Earl, bid par and accrued interest plus a premium of 2.14 per cent; Ladd & Bush bid par and interest plus a premium of three per cent. E. K. Dennison asked that his license on the Wexford theatre be remitted and the matter was referred to the license committee.

The P. R. L. & P. company was notified to install 400 candle power light at the intersection of North Fifth street and Shipping street. The matter of lights at Liberty and Academy, Fairmount and Owens was referred to the incoming council. In the matter of the South Salem sewer petitioned for by A. Daus and others it was ordered that the man with power to act and they were allowed to spend \$600 to repair the difficulty.

HUBBARD NEWS

D. J. Butcher, of Portland, was in Hubbard last week getting a lineup on the local telephone situation. Mr. Butcher is with the Pacific telephone company and gives his attention to the long distance service.
The subscription circulated by the Parent-Teacher association for the school show about \$70.00 and at this rate it is safe to say the instrument will be purchased if the rest of us give it the support the movement merits.
Miss Frances Weaver went to Scotts Mills Monday in answer to a phone message stating Mrs. Simms had been stricken with paralysis. Miss Frances returned Wednesday and said Mrs. Simms had had a light stroke, but was very much improved when she left.
George Wolfer went to Canby Monday to spend the day with his brother Sam, whose health has not been the best of late. He found him rather weak and not able to get about the house very well.
W. J. Culver, county road master, was in Hubbard going over the roads in district No. 3 with Supervisor Sam Daniels last Monday. There were some places north of town that were needing draining and his trip here was to prepare for this work.
Mr. S. Merrill, of Sherburne, New York, arrived in Hubbard Monday to spend a few days the guest of his uncle, Mr. S. Shoales. Mr. Merrill will take a vivid impression of the West

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home on his return as his trip included Los Angeles, San Francisco, and by boat from there to Portland. He expects to spend a week in Hubbard.

As a number of cases of whooping cough are in evidence about town a number have asked the Enterprise to request the parents of the little folk having the cough at this time, to keep them from attending public gatherings where other children will be subject to it. It may seem hard to make this request, but many parents whose children have escaped thus far are fearful of exposing their little folk to the contagion.

Wallace Bros. began plastering the new school building last Monday. As the lathers are far enough ahead there is nothing to hinder this part of the work being pushed to completion. The windows have been placed in the frames and the furnace work is progressing nicely. No definite time has been set for the completion of the job, but if the building is ready for school by the middle of February, good time will have been made.

D. S. Yoder, a former resident of Hubbard, left Hubbard Wednesday morning for Pratum to visit his mother Mrs. E. Hostetter. While here Mr. Yoder was the guest of his brother-in-law D. S. Yoder as well as many other friends. Mr. Yoder at one time taught the White school several terms when Henry George and Lawrence Scholl lived in the district and attended the school. It has been twelve years since Mr. Yoder established his home in San Francisco, California, and as this is the first trip here since moving to California, many of his old friends did not recognize him.

The finance committee for the community Christmas tree was calling on everybody Monday and receiving their cash offering to buy the treat for the little folks to be given at the close of the entertainment at the Armory hall Christmas eve. Everybody gave blyndly and it was easy to see that Christmas had begun in anticipation with them.

There will be 250 boxes filled with candy and nuts for distribution at the tree and if there are more boys and girls at the hall than the committee is prepared for or detained at home, the committee will locate them and see that they get their treat.

Among other patients at the hospital there was born to Mr. and Mrs. Roy Kropp in the maternity ward last Saturday morning a nine and three-fourth pound boy.

To Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Martin at their home, a 10 pound boy Sunday night.

Briefly stated; Dave Devall was treated for a very sore eye caused by powder burn; Mrs. James Dallas is suffering with a sore hand caused by a burn; Sam Egl is treated for a severe attack of neuralgia of the bowels Monday night; Mrs. Katherine Weaver is afflicted with an attack of shingles at her home near Needy; Mrs. Peter Roma of Mt. Angel is at the hospital for treatment; Mrs. Jesse Troyer and her baby boy went to their home Saturday.

—Enterprise.

Washington Brewers to Test Prohibition Law

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 21.—Another legal test is to be made of the state wide prohibition law, passed by the voters of Washington, and the validity of which has already been upheld on several points by the state supreme court. It is understood a brewer in eastern Washington, probably North Yakima, will continue to operate his plant after the first of the year.

He will make a test fight in federal court standing on his constitutional rights against confiscation of his property. This will put a new phase of the law up to the courts.

There is not believed to be any chance, however, that the federal court will order the law held inoperative pending settlement of this new case.

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